

10/593182

Application No.: NEW

Docket No.: 0445-0367PUS1

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**IN THE SPECIFICATION:****Page 3**

Please amend paragraph [0011] as indicated below:

[0011]

The present invention also provides apparatus for producing a fiber molded article. The apparatus has a papermaking mold for forming the fiber deposit layer and a receiving mold for receiving the fiber deposit layer from the papermaking mold. The papermaking mold or the receiving mold has thick-walled part-forming means by which the basal part of ~~the~~ an overhang is bent to make the thick-walled part.

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Please amend paragraph [0022] as indicated below:

[0022]

As illustrated in Figs. 1 to 3, the drying/shaping means 4 has a female mold (receiving mold) 40 and a male mold 41. On being butted together, the female mold 40 and the male mold 41 makes a clearance therebetween defining the outer contour of the fiber molded article to be produced. In the first embodiment, the female mold 40 and the male mold 41 are designed to form a clearance that can accommodate the flange ~~401~~ 111 of a fiber molded article 11 with substantial flatness.

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Please amend paragraph [0049] as indicated below:

[0049]

The female mold 40 is moved up by the vertically moving mechanism 402 whereby the fiber deposit layer 10 is transferred from the papermaking mold to the female mold 40 as illustrated in Fig. 7. The ~~female mold 40~~ The male mold 41 is then moved to the position for drying and shaping with the ~~male mold 41~~ female mold 40 by the transfer means. As illustrated in Figs. 10 and 11(a), the fiber deposit layer 10 thus formed has the thick-walled part 104 on the flange 101 along the edge 103 where two faces (the flange 101 and a casting cavity wall 102) meet.

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Please amend paragraph [0052] as indicated below:

[0052]

During the drying and shaping, the valve 414 is open, and the water content of the fiber deposit layer 10 is sucked by the suction pump 412 through the gas/liquid passageways 411 (see Fig. 3) and the drainage pipe 413 and discharged outside. On the other hand, the vertically moving mechanism 21 operates to lower the pouring frame 20 to have the papermaking portion ~~304~~ 300 of the papermaking mold 30 enclosed in the pouring frame 20, and another fiber deposit layer is formed in the same manner as in the above-described papermaking processing.

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Please amend paragraph [0066] as indicated below:

[0066]

The female mold 40 is then lowered and joined with the papermaking mold 30' by the vertically moving mechanism 402. The fiber deposit layer 10' is sucked toward the forming portion 400 through the flow pipe 403. The vertically moving mechanism 402 operates to lift the female mold 40, whereby the fiber deposit layer 10' is transferred from the papermaking mold 30 to the female mold 40. Thereafter, the ~~female mold 40~~ male mold 41 is transferred to the position for drying and shaping with the ~~male mold 41~~ female mold 40.